

**United States Senate**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6200

April 21, 2010

**Via Electronic Transmission**

Jerry Phillips  
Medicaid Director  
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals  
State of Louisiana  
628 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

4-21-10  
Don: please  
provide information.  
JP  
cc: MJ Terrebonne

Dear Medicaid Director Phillips:

In the United States, the federal and state governments spend roughly \$317 billion every year on the Medicaid program. As Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Finance, I have an obligation to ensure that taxpayer dollars are appropriately spent on federal health care programs. Like the Medicare program, Medicaid suffers from systemic weaknesses that lead to fraud, waste, and abuse across the program, resulting in higher costs and less health care to those who are in need. The overutilization of prescription drugs, whether through drug abuse or outright fraud, plays a significant role in the rising cost of our healthcare system. The purpose of this letter is to request information regarding certain outliers in Louisiana's Medicaid program and what steps Louisiana takes to monitor rates of utilization.

In recent inquiries, I have asked the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services about physicians prescribing mental health drugs at astonishingly high rates. In addition to these concerns, a recent CNN report detailed the increasing abuse of OxyContin, Roxicodone, and Xanax. Specifically, the report described the role some pain management clinics and physicians play in the black market for these drugs. I write today to better ascertain how high rates of both mental health and pain medication utilization are affecting the Medicaid program, as well as how Louisiana's rates compare to the national rates.

To that end, please provide charts that list of the top ten Medicaid prescribers of the following drugs for the years 2008 and 2009. For each prescriber, please provide his/her prescriber identifier, and the number of prescriptions written per drug per year, and the total amount billed to Medicaid per drug, separated for each year.

- Abilify;
- Geodon;
- Seroquel;
- Zyprexa;

- Risperdal;
- OxyContin;
- Roxicodone; and
- Xanax.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation and request that you provide the requested documents and written responses by no later than May 5, 2010. In your reply, please format information into a chart like the examples provided below. All formal correspondence should be sent electronically in PDF format to [Brian\\_Downey@finance-rep.senate.gov](mailto:Brian_Downey@finance-rep.senate.gov) or via facsimile to (202) 228-2131. Of course should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact Christopher Armstrong of my Committee staff at (202) 224-4515.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member

Attachment

**Drug X, 2008**

Prescriber Identifier	Total prescriptions	Total billed to Medicaid
123456789	25,000	250,000
234567891	24,000	240,000
345678912	23,000	230,000
456789123	22,000	220,000
567891234	21,000	210,000
678912345	20,000	200,000
789123456	19,000	190,000
891234567	18,000	180,000
912345678	17,000	170,000
012345678	16,000	160,000

**Drug X, 2009**

Prescriber Identifier	Total prescriptions	Total billed to Medicaid
123456789	25,000	250,000
234567891	24,000	240,000
345678912	23,000	230,000
456789123	22,000	220,000
567891234	21,000	210,000
678912345	20,000	200,000
789123456	19,000	190,000
891234567	18,000	180,000
912345678	17,000	170,000
012345678	16,000	160,000

From: Don Gregory  
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2010 4:31 PM  
To: [Brian\\_Downey@finance-re.senate.gov](mailto:Brian_Downey@finance-re.senate.gov)  
Cc: M J Terrebonne; Jerry Phillips  
Subject: prescriber request

Per Senator Charles Grassley s request, we are attaching a PDF format of the top ten prescribers of the drugs requested for state fiscal years 2008 and 2009 with the NPI numbers.

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??Go Green! Please do not print this e-mail unless necessary.

Top 10 Prescribers  
By Select Drug  
SFY 08/09 DOP

Abilify SFY 2008		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1821058181	769	\$ 364,009.74
1326123415	494	\$ 214,628.94
1760525547	452	\$ 172,353.84
1558397109	378	\$ 142,616.38
1245253681	347	\$ 165,276.37
1427079060	305	\$ 139,906.67
1871643163	265	\$ 133,926.17
1992831010	257	\$ 118,468.78
1548206618	248	\$ 152,844.24
1417992249	245	\$ 119,233.92

Abilify SFY 2009		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1952488223	1,146	\$ 529,745.26
1821058181	1,128	\$ 534,636.08
1326123415	703	\$ 326,147.06
1760525547	518	\$ 215,710.82
1235268863	470	\$ 263,518.08
1245253681	402	\$ 199,889.30
1427079060	393	\$ 221,686.54
1235191586	378	\$ 138,731.54
1750323754	356	\$ 138,313.38
1346295458	349	\$ 145,957.44

Geodon SFY 2008		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1760525547	522	\$ 142,271.23
1821058181	396	\$ 98,142.28
1558397109	258	\$ 76,952.62
1326123415	252	\$ 97,724.19
1235191586	235	\$ 70,194.97
1356319453	207	\$ 70,819.65
1952488223	162	\$ 60,749.95
1326197591	162	\$ 46,595.83
1912909912	149	\$ 46,415.22
1891841847	136	\$ 33,199.48
1215087887	136	\$ 58,346.82

Geodon SFY 2009		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1558397109	356	\$ 118,246.74
1821058181	315	\$ 92,167.25
1326197591	286	\$ 103,859.37
1235191586	248	\$ 86,248.56
1982634390	234	\$ 62,417.19
1760525547	232	\$ 75,776.88
1326123415	229	\$ 90,636.86
1356319453	182	\$ 70,234.53
1336237205	173	\$ 44,199.10
1952345902	169	\$ 48,293.38

Seroquel SFY 2008		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1760525547	1,093	\$ 200,522.12
1912027566	1,002	\$ 171,413.59
1821058181	743	\$ 203,579.33
1871643163	598	\$ 109,465.38
1952488223	559	\$ 91,218.69
1619063591	531	\$ 131,761.85
1326123415	530	\$ 115,151.44
1558397109	498	\$ 143,102.03
1215087887	496	\$ 249,026.66
1083636484	483	\$ 190,108.09

Seroquel SFY 2009		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1952488223	1,058	\$ 166,397.05
1912027566	828	\$ 159,655.28
1821058181	766	\$ 236,527.11
1760525547	707	\$ 165,786.87
1689662439	688	\$ 155,566.70
1265459234	657	\$ 253,113.49
1083636484	653	\$ 267,174.40
1558397109	602	\$ 162,488.70
1982805891	586	\$ 144,211.35
1619063591	567	\$ 134,196.60

Zyprexa SFY 2008		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1083636484	448	\$ 317,912.81
1558397109	415	\$ 211,457.19
1992831010	241	\$ 147,792.95
1326123415	202	\$ 81,507.34
1346300894	190	\$ 137,081.74
1619965340	189	\$ 95,664.41
1821058181	177	\$ 75,086.37
1265459234	172	\$ 97,157.61
1700947991	169	\$ 88,850.86
1679501712	168	\$ 163,430.17

Zyprexa SFY 2009		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1083636484	496	\$ 381,804.99
1558397109	367	\$ 196,766.79
1265459234	242	\$ 184,049.68
1326123415	214	\$ 93,493.21
1821058181	204	\$ 104,701.14
1700947991	189	\$ 106,049.80
1376689752	182	\$ 116,085.16
1346300894	178	\$ 147,644.37
1285795716	176	\$ 114,311.71
1700800653	174	\$ 120,673.78

Top 10 Prescribers  
By Select Drug  
SFY 08/09 DOP

Risperdal Brand/Generic SFY 2008		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1952488223	1,698	\$ 360,688.95
1558397109	1,157	\$ 297,575.06
1760525547	1,143	\$ 236,043.62
1326123415	769	\$ 193,754.63
1043267008	763	\$ 160,477.51
1548206618	680	\$ 163,883.83
1669584876	623	\$ 310,981.16
1083636484	612	\$ 220,452.23
1346206349	565	\$ 109,399.66
1912909912	547	\$ 152,724.04

Risperdal Brand/Generic SFY 2009		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1558397109	1,576	\$ 290,432.31
1952488223	1,277	\$ 232,803.65
1760525547	1,060	\$ 183,003.11
1669584876	1,028	\$ 487,195.16
1083636484	803	\$ 232,821.51
1326123415	717	\$ 138,420.82
1982805891	656	\$ 184,896.29
1346206349	606	\$ 98,985.84
1326197591	605	\$ 222,046.05
1235191586	556	\$ 148,610.99

Oxycontin Brand/Generic SFY 2008		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1437200045	291	\$ 204,107.16
1801021811	201	\$ 171,220.03
1851450613	198	\$ 162,678.28
1700997160	190	\$ 123,782.56
1154334845	177	\$ 82,419.71
1225156151	173	\$ 136,173.03
1942308184	159	\$ 117,933.83
1578661187	154	\$ 60,756.67
1891819074	150	\$ 131,382.71
1811076995	149	\$ 150,273.56

Oxycontin Brand/Generic SFY 2009		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1851450613	313	\$ 261,973.90
1831119684	302	\$ 338,028.95
1801021811	260	\$ 235,997.81
1669674453	219	\$ 126,429.71
1154334845	212	\$ 139,252.27
1578661187	198	\$ 93,974.19
1225156151	195	\$ 127,110.03
1215070115	169	\$ 96,961.70
1750347878	151	\$ 55,311.26
1700997160	129	\$ 96,655.65

Roxicodone Brand/Generic SFY 2008		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1740364090	515	\$ 101,498.15
1588840888	280	\$ 2,884.50
1154334845	228	\$ 27,630.25
1801021811	183	\$ 43,624.48
1477634293	180	\$ 34,600.27
1417992249	166	\$ 8,011.46
1700997160	138	\$ 18,088.76
1780741892	138	\$ 10,915.76
1770691412	137	\$ 18,152.37
1437200045	135	\$ 9,001.20
1942308184	135	\$ 9,519.54

Roxicodone Brand/Generic SFY 2009		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1740364090	658	\$ 174,526.21
1801021811	316	\$ 77,360.60
1669674453	278	\$ 36,886.42
1154334845	266	\$ 36,107.32
1285603688	257	\$ 33,722.42
1477634293	238	\$ 38,926.89
1770691412	231	\$ 34,521.70
1780741892	187	\$ 14,880.34
1588840888	161	\$ 1,740.52
1174688857	159	\$ 28,066.31

Xanax Brand/Generic SFY 2008		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1881733970	3,129	\$ 26,509.30
1750485900	1,578	\$ 13,396.00
1427130228	1,215	\$ 18,066.47
1851450613	1,099	\$ 18,188.40
1326119397	811	\$ 12,329.03
1932146131	805	\$ 7,303.14
1437200045	800	\$ 11,811.39
1477634293	792	\$ 10,908.61
1326123415	762	\$ 19,710.23
1447317722	675	\$ 6,554.54

Xanax Brand/Generic SFY 2009		
Prescriber Identifier	Claim Count	Paid Amount
1881733970	3384	\$ 28,984.85
1750485900	1922	\$ 16,080.81
1427130228	1337	\$ 20,587.39
1205832086	972	\$ 14,193.32
1457353682	920	\$ 9,214.15
1326123415	899	\$ 19,453.42
1164422119	844	\$ 10,264.40
1538254628	844	\$ 11,200.73
1659397750	833	\$ 9,436.31
1972572089	797	\$ 16,338.78